

Water Commission Minutes
1-21-2020

Called to Order: 6 PM

Members Present: Fran Huntoon, David Sander, Christy Witters, Bard Hill, Don Morin

Absent:

Others Present: Josh Arneson, Town Manager; Kendall Chamberlin, Water & Sewer Superintendent; Kathy Daub-Stearns, Admin. Assist.; and Ruth Miller was present to videotape the meeting for MMCTV Channel 15; others present: Elysse Parente, Owner Crimson Poppy

1. Welcome by Bard. No comments.

2. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda.

3. Other Business

- a. Appoint timekeeper
After discussion David Sander volunteered to be Timekeeper for tonight's meeting.
- b. Consideration of approval of request to terminate the water and sewer account for 41 Farr Road
David made motion to terminate the account at 41 Farr Road, Fran seconded. All were in favor.
- c. Review and vote on approval of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) regarding sewer service for 91 Willis Farm Rd.
After discussion it was decided to rework some of the items including whether the Town should take over pump stations or just force mains, how the Reap's may Recoup some of the costs if the main were ever extended, future maintenance costs, future liability for repairs/ clean up and partial responsibility of maintenance if a system is partially private. Some of the items are going to require a longer discussion with expert input, another meeting will be scheduled. Prior to approval an attorney will review the MOU.
- d. Review and vote on approval of letter to MMUUSD regarding sewer service for 91 Willis Farm Rd.
David made motion to approve letter to MMUUSD, Christy seconded. All were in favor.
- e. Update on Bridge St. waterline project including Green Mountain Power's (GMP) plan for buried power lines
Josh provided an update on the Bridge St. & GMP plans stating that several contractors attended the pre-bid meeting and after discussion it was agreed that the deadline for substantial completion needed to be extended from 75 to 90 days. After discussion with GMP it was clear the power company wanted to have the Town pay for burying the power by utilizing grants. It was agreed that

“Streetscapes” may be a more reasonable avenue for burying the lines since there is no time to put things together before the project is scheduled to start.

Elysse requested information on the Bridge St. plan. Josh will provide her with the link to the presentation from an earlier Selectboard meeting & add her to the interested parties being updated if she provides her email address.

It was decided that there should be a mailing to reach out to residents on Bridge Street with information as well as a website/ page to be updated as information is available.

- f. Final review of budget with FY19 Actuals to include in Town Report
After discussion that included information on the costs associated with the increase of income the Board accepted the FY19 Actuals to be included in the Town Report.
- g. Follow up on policy and ordinance regarding the authority of the Water and Sewer Superintendent with regards to mandating changes to privately owned lines
The discussion brought to light that to change an ordinance is going to take a minimum of 60 days. It was discussed whether it was possible that language could be inserted into the existing ordinance because the WS Commission can adopt a rule to address the situation. It was decided to work on the ordinance and to see if the Water & Sewer Commission can amend the Ordinance more quickly in the interim. The 1961 Ordinance will be either converted or retyped so it is in an editable form.
- h. Budget status report
Skipped - All agreed.
- i. Follow up on application for DWSRF loan for Asset Management
Loan paperwork is ready for the Selectboard to sign.
- j. Signatures on previously approved Delinquent Account Policy
Selectboard members signed the policy.
- k. Discussion of how to address a request by Camels Hump Middle School to use water from a Town hydrant to fill a skating rink at the school
Previously the hydrant was owned by the school and used to flood the skating rink. Now that the hydrant is owned by the Town so the school is asking if the Town would fill the skating rink at no cost to the school. The question is: Would the commission make an exception and allow having the Town provide water for the skating rink if the Fire Dept. is willing to pump the hydrant?

Mary Houle would like to have the commission send a letter so a precedent isn't set.

The Board decided to allow the Fire Dept to pump the water for the skating rink at no cost as long as the school submitted a letter of request in the fall each year for

consideration and the Fire Dept is willing to pump the hydrant. The Town will send a letter that says the commission does not object to the use of the hydrant for the skating rink for this year.

I. Superintendent's Report

Kendall reported that PFAS testing is going to be required again by the state. A few meters have had to be replaced for various reasons this past week and the facility continues to be busy.

4. Approval of Minutes, Warrants and Purchase Orders

- a. Minutes of 1/6/2020 were approved with amendments. David moved to approve, Christy seconded. All were in favor.
- b. David moved to accept Purchase Order 3821 to Parker Excavation for the emergency repair of the sludge transfer line not to exceed \$14,583.77, Christy seconded. All were in favor.
- c. David moved to accept Purchase Order 3812 to People's United Bank for the principal interest on Phosphorus SRF not to exceed \$22,220.00, Christy seconded. All were in favor.

5. Discuss Items for Next Agenda and Adjourn

Budget status report, policy and ordinance, progress on Reap conversation.

Next meeting 6PM.

David moved to adjourn, Christy seconded. All agreed, the meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM.